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# Things That Make Us Glad

Wyatt Sawyer

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## THINGS THAT MAKE US GLAD

Acts 14:24-28

Why on Sunday night?

Most natural for Paul to report back to his sponsoring congregation after missionary journey. The church was on the march then. Paul eager to report. Church to hear. journey. INT: The church is on the march today also. Outsiders say we are growing faster than all else. Our primary concern is our own program of work. Keeping up. Let's rehearse some.

## I. FINANCES OF A CONGREGATION USUALLY INDICATE ITS FERVOR.

- A. Had an income of \$10,491.85 in 1951. Set a budget for \$10,790.00. <sup>Nearly \$500 more.</sup> 1953 income 11,226.61.  
 B. Total expenditures amounted to \$10,868.69. Including all items of spending.  
 C. Total cash on hand including all funds is \$1,659.93. Building, Mission and Regular.  
 D. Budget for 1953 is \$11,700.00 or \$10 per month more than in 1952. Need: \$225 weekly. Increase amount to only \$2.50 weekly in 1953. Averaged '52. 215 weekly.

## II. OUR 17 POINT CONGREGATIONAL PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES WAS IMPROVED SOME.

1. Morning worship service. Added devotional prayer. Needed. Set communion in order.
  - a. Communion service set earlier to insure reverence. Has proved successful.
2. Mid-week Bible Study. Best attendance in years. 68 our high. Should have 100.
  - a. Added junior class on Wed. night and began working with our Junior singers.
  - b. Want junior singers 10 minutes early this year for private instruction.
3. Gospel Meeting in 1952 was a great evangelistic endeavor. Church strengthened.
  - a. Gospel Meeting in 1953 proposed on downtown lot, rented chairs. Frank J. Dunn.
  - b. Most extensive advertizing in 1952 of congregation's history. More in 1953. Work.
- c. Singing School April 6 - 17. Because of high ceiling must sing better than average.
4. Vacation Bible School very effective in 1952. Plan for better one in 1953.

THESE ITEMS OF PRIMARY EMPHASIS

NEXT ARE ITEMS OF SECONDARY EMPHASIS, but just as essential.

## 5. Local Mission work. \$100 sent to College Station and Mt Tabor.

- a. Deacon from here aided the work there with leadership most of 1952. Joe Drew.
- c. Your preacher preaches up there every Thursday night. Good interest and crowds.
- d. Sunday morning attendance over 100 and Thursday night attendance close to 50.
- e. Our meeting letter advertized our position on Sal. Worship, Christian Life etc.
- f. Second printing of our Trace "What Jesus Says". About 1,400 of these distributed.
- g. Correspondence Course begun. Now going to about 140 individuals. More coming in.
- h. Sponsored project for Better Bible Study among Couples. Interesting and helpful.
- i. Sis. Rella Morris teaches Midway ladies Bible class on Thur. afternoons.

## 6. Negro Mission work. Gave over \$100 toward their new building. They have \$500 now.

- a. We will need to give heavier in 1953 if they get the building they need.
- b. Their work will never progress until this item is corrected. Min. \$300 Max. \$500.
- c. Sis. J. R. Cleere, Sr. teaches class of ladies at colored church on Tuesdays.

## 7. Orphan Home work. Sent standard \$120 to Boles, Tipton, Sunny Glenn Homes.

- a. Ladies group sees after Marcell Forman at Sunny Glenn, about \$130 a year.
- b. Sunday Morning Adult Class supports James Lackey at Boles. \$130 a year.
- c. Promised \$120 on new Nursery Building at Boles. Will send in 1953. Mistake in 1952.

## 8. National Mission Work. Sent \$300 to York, Pa. for 6th year. Sent \$2,850 in all. Cut.

- a. Number of appeals to be brought up at Business Meeting Tuesday night. Consider.
- b. National Broadcast-Herald of Truth- on 228 A.B.C. stations. Cost: \$575,000. Results.
- c. Only 200,000 pledged for 1953 by Jan. 1. Hope we can help on that some. 1 donation.

## 9. Foreign Mission Work. Began this work March 11, 1953. 22 months ago. Complimented.

- a. Japan. One Christian College. about 30 congregations in state of Ibaraki. Six church buildings, 14 full time native preachers, 14 American preachers, four kindergartens, a home for the aged, 3,000 members of church.
- b. We support one Native preacher and family full time. \$25 a month.
- c. Have supported two native student preachers full time. \$120.00 a year each.
- d. Their additions to the church run into the hundreds in 1953. Just one state! 270 additions listed in 1951. No total in 1952 yet. Budget is \$10,000 yearly.
- e. Joe Cannon, class mate of ours met the top Buddhist Priest in public debate. Read the Priest's book. Was to debate another man; he backed out, so Joe was much better prepared to debate the High Priest.



- a. Italy. Home of the Roman Catholic Pope and Seat of Catholic Hierarchy.
  1. Finally secured a building: 3 story, stone, Cost: about \$75,000.
  2. We have been sending \$25 monthly to help buy pews and furniture.
  3. Persecution arose because we were making converts. Closed churches.  
They converting all Protestant visitors possible, but forbidding visitors to convert any native Italians. Church got \$1,000,000 worth of advertizing.
  4. Struggle is not over. Worse may come. Priests being converted regularly. Reason.
- b. Germany. Now has congregations in 10 major cities, one Christian School and many German boys in American Christian Colleges getting better education.
  - 30 - 40 1. Conducted tent meetings all over West Germany making hundreds of converts.
  2. Christian college at Frankfurt goes seven days and nights a week with classes.
  3. We support the broadcast called "Germeinde Christi" (Germany for Christ) \$25 mon.  
Has power of 100,000 watts, double our strongest. First broadcast due January 2, 1953 at 2:15 p.m.

10. Other highlights of the year 1952 for the church include:

- a. Securing of a permant building in Holland. Work supported some from here.
- b. Bro. Eldred Stevens of Stillwater met Bishop Beevers, Catholic Priest, in debate at Stillwater. Catholics debate about every 100 years.
- c. Davidson Co. around Nashville, Tenn. now has over 90 congregations. largest.  
Dallas Co. around Dallas has nearly 80 local congregations. 2nd.  
Harris Co. around Houston has nearly 60 local congregations.  
Tarrent Co. around Ft. Worth is passing the 50 local congregation mark.
- d. Work in the Philippines, Mexico, France, South Africa, South America and many other places continue to grow with new workers going to these fields.

*Glad*

INV: The church of our Lord is certainly on the march. We want to keep in step.  
Sin keeps us out of step. If out of duty come in repentance and let's pray.  
If never obeyed Christ, take stand with Him and His marching church tonight.